



TOWN OF HOPEDALE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
TOWN HALL
78 HOPEDALE STREET
HOPEDALE, MA 01747

Christopher P. Hodgens, Chairman
Nicholas A. Alexander, Member
Sandra E. Biagetti, Member
Louis J. Costanza, Member
Scott M. Savage, Member
Mary T. Arcudi, Alternate

Signs

The Hopedale Zoning By-Laws regulate signs for all properties. Apart from the narrow exceptions noted below, all signs require either a permit from the Building Commissioner or a special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Hopedale Zoning By-Laws have very specific requirements regarding sign placement and size. The reference provided here is for informational purposes only. If planning to add a sign to your property, you should review the full text of the Hopedale Zoning By-Laws §§ 7 through 7.11 and contact the Building Commissioner.

Prohibited

1. temporary signs (§§ 7, 7.1, 7.2, 7.8)

exception: real estate signs up to 6 months (§ 7.1)

exception: contractor signs during project (§ 7.5)

2. moving, rotating, flashing signs (§ 7.7)

3. freestanding signs unattached to building (§ 7.4)

4. lighted signs between midnight and 8 a.m. (§ 7.7)

Allowed with Permit from Building Commissioner

Signs affixed to business buildings and meeting the specifications of the by-laws are allowed with a permit from the Building Commissioner. (§ 7.9)

Allowed with Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals may allow signs in its discretion based on the standards established in the Hopedale Zoning By-Laws. (§§ 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, 7.9)

Allowed as Constitutionally Protected Speech

Signs expressing non-commercial freedom of speech (e.g., political signs, candidate signs) are allowed without any need to seek permission. (§§ 7.3, 7.10)

If you believe that a sign is not properly displayed, you should send a written request for enforcement to the Building Commissioner. Please see the link on this website for "Zoning Complaints" for more details on the procedure for initiating enforcement.